

# Courier

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## Don Smith Awards recognize outstanding service

The Employees Advisory Council (EAC) recently recognized county employees Anita S. Vines, Robert M. Ross and Paula J. Harper for their outstanding service with 2004 Don Smith EAC Awards. The winners received an engraved plaque and a check from the EAC for \$1,000. One honorable mention

award was presented to one of the 12 nominees for this prestigious award.

Those presented with the 2004 Don Smith EAC Award at the Jan. 10 Fairfax County Board of Supervisors meeting are:

- ♦ Anita S. Vines, Department of Cable Communications and Consumer Protection, for her dedication and involvement with



Holding their awards are Anita Vines, Robert Ross and Paula Harper. Standing: Karen Conchar, EAC chair, and Anita Baker, EAC treasurer.

See Awards, page 2

## Adult Day Health Care Program celebrates 25th anniversary

The Fairfax County Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) Program is celebrating its 25th anniversary. In 1977, the Board of Supervisors approved a recommendation by the Fairfax County Commission on Aging and the Area Agency on Aging to establish an elderly day care program to serve adults who are frail, elderly or living with disabilities living in Fairfax

County. The funds to support this effort were drawn from a community development block grant and a grant from the Area Agency on Aging.

The center was established under the auspice of the Health Department because the primary goal is to promote the health of ADHC participants by enabling them to

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**Awards, from page 1**

Santa's Ride, which is sponsored by the Police Department. She coordinates the toy collec-



*EAC chair Karen Conchar, Board Chairman Gerald E. Connolly, and Supervisor Penny Gross congratulate Patricia Stephan-Facett.*

tion for the Government Center complex with a goal of adding one additional collection box each year. On the day that the toys are picked up by Santa and his helpers, Vines arranges for the Employees Day Care Center children to

have lunch in the Government Center cafeteria and meet Santa. They also bring books for Santa to give to needy children.

♦ Robert M. Ross, Office of the County Attorney, for his dedication, professionalism and dynamic presentations to law enforcement recruits at the Criminal Justice Academy. His instruction in various legal issues relevant to law enforcement has helped to ensure that recruits are confident and comfortable with the knowledge needed to do their jobs correctly and safely.

♦ Paula J. Harper, Office of Public Affairs, for her extraordinary support and inspiration that she provides to the many activities to benefit the county and its employees. This includes her work as a chair person for the Pay for Performance appeals; her assistance with the *Courier* newsletter and photo

contest; her role as a key member of the Administrative Resource Team and its development conferences; and her coordination of agency employees in various events within and outside of the agency.

The Honorable Mention Award, which consists of a framed certificate and gift certificate, was presented to Patricia Stephan-Fawcett, Human Rights Commission, for her support to her coworkers, both inside and outside of the workplace.

The other nominees received certificates of merit in appreciation of their fine service to their fellow employees. Nominees were David K. Bennett, Library; Ana G. Cisneros, Circuit Court and Records; Frances L. Jefferson, Community Services Board/Alcohol and Drug Services; Linda L. Kerns, Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court; Stephen E. Knippler, Department of Housing and Community Development; Gwendolyn E. Richardson, Department of Administration for Human Services; Donna F. Singer, Health Department; and Abbas A. Tabatabaie, Police Department.

The Don Smith EAC Award recognizes employees of the county government and school system who have outstanding contributions to the well being of their fellow employees. The award was established by the EAC in 1991 to honor Donald D. Smith, a long-time employee of the Office of Comprehensive Planning, who was a mainstay of the EAC for 16 years until his retirement in 1990. ■

## Project Discovery helps develop careers

"Luck favors the prepared mind," stated retired Major Steven Kirtley, United States Marine Corps, as he told his story of bravery and heroism while he was a 1979 hostage in Iran. Speaking to almost 200 students and parents attending the Office of Partnerships' Project Discovery 5th Annual Career Conference on Jan. 8 at Falls Church High School, Major Kirtley recounted almost a year and a half in captivity, explaining how he and other captives survived the ordeal. He advised students to learn from everything we do to help us in our future endeavors. "You must have integrity, strength and a plan to survive in life," he said.

For more information, contact the Office of Partnerships, 703-324-5141, TTY 711. ■



*Major Steven Kirtley, USMC retired, speaks to career conference. (Photo by Partnerships)*

**Anniversary, from page 1**

remain in the community with their families, preventing premature institutionalization.

The Annandale Adult Day Health Care center was the first public nonprofit elderly day care facility in Fairfax County, opening its doors on Jan. 3, 1980. This program was an example of interagency collaboration, a visionary approach to providing long-term care services and innovative use of county resources.

In the past 22 years, four additional centers have opened – the Lewinsville Adult Day Health Care center in June 1985; the Lincolnia Adult Day Health Care center in January 1990; the Mount Vernon Adult Day Health Care center in July 1990; and the Herndon Harbor Adult Day Health Care center in June 2000. In 2006 the county plans to open a sixth center at Little River Glen in Fairfax City.

In 1986 The Annandale and Lewinsville Adult Day Health Care centers were the recipients of the National Achievement Award given by the National Association of Counties. They were recognized for their new and innovative programs.

The Fairfax County Adult Day Health Care centers provide a safe, fun and therapeutic environment for frail, elderly adults who need supervision during the day due to cognitive and/or physical impairments. Each center has a registered nurse who monitors the health status of each participant; a therapeutic recreation specialist who designs

daily activities to enhance cognitive, physical and social functions; and several program assistants who lead the daily activities and provide personal care to the participants. The program also supports family caregivers.

According to the 2002 Fairfax County Long-Term Care Task Force Report, 10.4 percent of the county's population (104,818) was either 65 years or older, or an adult with disabilities. It is estimated that in the year 2010 there will

be 187,376 people in this group reflecting 16.8 percent of the county's population. As the demographics continue to change and new demands for long-term care

emerge, the Adult Day Health Care Program in Fairfax County will play a critical role in providing a cost-effective alternative to more restrictive long term care options. To learn more about this program, please contact the Fairfax County Health Department at 703-246-8660, TTY 711. ■

- by Shauna Severo, Long-Term Care Coordinator



*ADHC program participants get a "helping hand" when needed. (Photo by Isabel Castillejo, ADHC.)*

## Prosper personally...Be a BeFriend Mentor

Do you want solid returns on your 2005 investments? Consider the award-winning BeFriend-A-Child and BeFriend-A-Parent mentoring opportunities with the county's Department of Family Services.

Like financial investments, committing a few hours of your time can show life-changing returns on your investment. Just four to eight hours a month for six to 12 months can make an impact on some child's life. Your time can be flexible to work with your schedule. And there's an added benefit – county employees receive a day of "comp time" after a year of participation.

Try us out with a group event or a training session. We seek volunteers who like to learn, focus on friendship and keep commitments. Call Ann Rieger at 703-324-7072 or Chuck Berlin at 703-324-7874, TTY 711, for more information, or visit the the county Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dfs/factsheets/BeFriend.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/service/dfs/factsheets/BeFriend.htm). For information about other local mentoring opportunities, visit [www.mentorfairfax.org](http://www.mentorfairfax.org) or [www.mentoring.org](http://www.mentoring.org). ■

**January  
is  
National  
Mentoring  
Month**



## Millennium Forum

# Squeeze predicted on federally funded county programs

"Social Security reform could put more pressure on local governments to provide



*Mara Liasson (above) speaks at the recent Millennium Forum as members of the audience (right) listen to a question.*

services," National Public Radio's Mara Liasson told the Millennium Forum audience on Jan. 11 in the atrium of the Government Center. Liasson, who is also a political correspondent for Fox News, discussed the White House's current agenda with county staff.

If passed, proposed Social Security reforms would include setting up private retirement accounts

for younger workers and changing how Social Security benefits are calculated. The reforms could add \$2 trillion to the deficit at a time when President Bush has pledged to cut the deficit in half. She suggested there will be a long and hard battle to reform the Social Security program. "Since it was enacted after the Great Depression, Social Security reform has become an emotional issue for many people who depend on those benefits," she said.

"It's safe to predict there will be a tremendous squeeze in all areas of the federal government," Liasson said. "You will probably see flat growth, no growth or cuts in programs" that depend on federal funds and are delivered through local governments like

Fairfax County.

"Washington doesn't work according to the good government principles of many local communities," Liasson said in response to the county executive's question about why Social Security reform was a top priority for the Bush administration's second term, rather than Medicare, which is in worse fiscal shape.

Listing potential candidates for president in 2008, Liasson named two Virginians, U.S. Senator George Allen and Governor Mark Warner. "Virginia is going to be the center of a lot of attention," she said. "Politicians are going to be working hard for the allegiance of Virginia voters."

The next Millennium Forum is scheduled for March 9 in the Board Auditorium of the Government Center. The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Walt Disney Corpo-

ration, former U.S. Senator George Mitchell, will discuss "Public Service: Political Realities and Constituent Demands."

To borrow a videotape of past Millennium Forum presentations, call the Employee Lending Library for Video Instructional Services at 703-324-8318, TTY



703-324-8365, or e-mail

[John.Kiefman@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:John.Kiefman@fairfaxcounty.gov). To sign up to receive announcements about future Millennium Forum presentations, e-mail [millenniumforum@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:millenniumforum@fairfaxcounty.gov). ■

- Pat Bangs, Fairfax County Public Library

# Emergency Preparedness: a New Year's resolution not to break

We all make resolutions for ways to improve during the new year. But sometimes, those resolutions slip by the wayside, a forgotten product of our busy lives.

There is a resolution, however, that you don't want to forget. This suggestion, offered by the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management, can help you and your family be better prepared for disasters and emergency situations, such as severe weather, loss of electricity or potential terrorist incidents.

The Office of Emergency Management encourages residents to assemble an emergency preparedness kit – or purchase a prepackaged kit available from several sources, including the American Red Cross ([www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)). Your kit should contain a minimum three-day supply of food and water. Here are some suggested items for your emergency preparedness kit:

- ♦ Food – energy bars; ready-to-eat canned meals, fruits and vegetables; peanut butter; crackers; trail mix; canned milk or soup; comfort foods, such as hard candy, cookies, sweetened cereal or instant coffee.

- ♦ Water – a minimum of one gallon per person per day (two quarts for drinking and two quarts for food preparation/sanitation) – stored in plastic containers, such as soft drink bottles. Do not store water in glass containers.

- ♦ Flashlight and battery-operated radio, with extra batteries.

- ♦ Medications – both prescription and nonprescription; vitamins.

- ♦ First aid kit – to include bandages, antiseptic wipes, antibiotic ointment packages, aspirin, gauze, scissors, first aid instruction materials.

- ♦ Personal hygiene items – toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, brush, soap, contact lens solution, feminine supplies.

- ♦ Clothing and bedding – at least one change of clothes and shoes for each person;

sturdy shoes or boots; rain gear; sleeping bags; blankets.

- ♦ Sanitation – toilet paper; towelettes; hand sanitizer; disinfectant; plastic bags, ties; household chlorine bleach.

***Emergency preparedness kits should contain a minimum three-day supply of food and water.***

- ♦ Other supplies – such as paper plates, cups and plastic utensils; aluminum foil; plastic storage containers; matches in a waterproof container; map; wrench (to turn off gas and water connections); nonelectric can opener; cash, change or traveler's checks; paper, pens and pencils.

- ♦ Special items – games or books; important family documents – such as insurance policies, passports, important telephone numbers, family records, etc. – in a waterproof, portable container; any supplies for persons with disabilities or special needs for infants or elderly persons.

- ♦ Communication plan – an important part of any kit is to include a family communication plan, with all important phone numbers and contact information. This will speed up your ability to communicate with family and friends in the event of an emergency.

These kits should help sustain you and your family for a minimum of three days should an emergency or disaster occur.

For more details, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 703-324-2362, TTY 711. Additional emergency information can be found on the Fairfax County emergency Web page at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency). During times of emergency or severe weather, employees may receive Emergency Alert Network (EAN) notifications, call the Fairfax County Government Emergency Information Line at 703-817-7771, TTY 711, watch the county government cable Channel 16 or visit the county Web site at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov) for updated information. ■

**Office of Emergency  
Management  
703-324-2362,  
TTY 711**

# Telling your story in *Courier*

Do you want to get recognition for some of the good things your agency and employees are doing? Then consider a story in *Courier*, the county employees' newsletter that reaches more than 15,000 county and school employees. Below are some ways you can get your story told in *Courier*. Only information related to county employees and their agencies can be considered in the county employees newsletter.

- ♦ Story ideas. County employees are involved in many activities, both at work and away from work. It's nice to know who we are and what we do. E-mail or call the *Courier* editor with your idea and perhaps it can be developed into an interesting story. Tie your idea into an agency accomplishment, a national achievement month or a seasonal occurrence to let others know what your team is doing.

- ♦ Briefs. These are short little notices that are usually about an upcoming event or the success of a project. Make sure you cover the "5-Ws" – who, where, when, what and why. And, of course, a contact point.

- ♦ Agency reviews. Periodically, *Courier* will print a profile of an agency. You can volunteer to tell others about your agency's mission

and the management challenges of some projects.

- ♦ Employee Focus. *Courier* profiles an employee in each issue. Why not let others know about your outstanding employee?

- ♦ Did you know... This column highlights work-related accomplishments of people you know in one or two sentences. Examples are employees serving as elected officials of professional associations or employees who receive awards.

- ♦ On the street. County employees give their responses to a general question that's printed with their photograph. A department or agency can volunteer to answer a question.

- ♦ Q&A. Ask a question and *Courier* will find the county expert for an answer.

- ♦ Photographs. A good photograph enhances a story. *Courier* offers photography support if it relates to the story. Additional photographs are often added to extra online pages for the electronic version found on the Infoweb. On the other hand, electronic files of county-related photographs are available in the *Courier* office for county use. And don't forget the ever-popular *Courier* Photo Contest each spring. It's a chance to exhibit your photographic skills.

You will usually find important information on Benefits, Tech Tips, and Security & Safety suggestions in each issue.

To keep *Courier* interesting and informative, your feedback is always appreciated. We like to know when something works well and we're glad to know of any errors. Please send your comments to the *Courier* editor.

We're at the beginning of another exciting year, so plan to tell your organization's story in *Courier*. We've got a whole new year to report the good things we do that help make Fairfax County one of the best places in which to live. Contact the *Courier* editor at 703-324-3197, TTY 703-324-2935, or by e-mail at [Courier@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Courier@fairfaxcounty.gov) or [john.nash@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:john.nash@fairfaxcounty.gov) if you have any questions or comments. ■

You can always see  
*Courier*  
in full color  
on the Infoweb  
at  
<http://Infoweb/courier>.

## Classified advertisements

Classified advertisements are no longer found in *Courier*. Because of leadtime in publishing classifieds, a new automated system was developed to handle county employees' ads. It's getting rave reviews!

An employee now can enter an item for sale, withdraw the item if it is sold, and view the classifieds by category. Item descriptions are less restrictive, allowing you to better describe your valuable item. And it still doesn't cost anything!

Just go to <http://Infoweb> and select Classifieds from the scroll down menu in the box at the top right of the page.

Classified advertisements must relate to products and services offered by county employees and should not include external business promotion, fundraising or solicitation.

The new automated system is only available to county employees. For security and access reasons, school employees and retired employees cannot participate in the new system. ■



## Employee awards nominations due

The next deadline for nominations for Outstanding Performance and Team Excellence Awards is Friday, Feb. 4. Now is the time to consider nominating those employees and teams who have performed in an outstanding manner or completed projects or assignments well above expectations. Nomination forms for Outstanding Performance and Team Excellence Awards can be found on the Infoweb. For additional information, please contact Bob Fitzpatrick in the Department of Human Resources at 703-324-3306, TTY 703-222-7314.

## Celebrate Fairfax Inc. presents Events 101

Celebrate Fairfax Inc. will host the third annual Events 101 workshop on Saturday, Feb. 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the South County Center, 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria. Events 101 is an opportunity for nonprofit organizations, government agencies, civic associations, churches, PTAs and others to learn about producing events. For more information, to register or for reasonable ADA accommodations call 703-324-5303, TTY 1-800-828-1120, or visit the Web site at [www.celebratefairfax.org](http://www.celebratefairfax.org).

## Scam alert

Recently, several versions of a scam e-mail have been released that request monetary donations to relief funds for victims of the recent Tsunami. Messages may appear to be from legitimate sources, such as the Red Cross or other reputable organizations, but may be scams. If you wish to donate to charities, contact the charity directly rather than reply to unsolicited e-mails you may receive.

If you have further questions, please contact your agency technical support staff or the Technical Support Center at 703-222-3535, option 1, TTY 711.

## AFSCME Local 1924 election

Nomination and election of officers will be held by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 1924 on Monday, Jan. 31, 5:30 p.m. at the Council 30 office, 7611 Little River Turnpike, Suite 202W, in Annandale. If you have any questions, please call Pat Bayliss at 703-941-2806, TTY 711.

## Replacing Xerox digital multifunction printers and copiers

The county will begin replacing its existing inventory of Xerox multifunction printing devices/copiers over the next several months with new, state-of-the-art machines. Xerox will provide any training necessary for the new machines. The devices will be replaced by building location in phases and your agency will be contacted prior to implementation. The current service, maintenance,

ordering of supplies and helpdesk procedures will remain unchanged. Should you have any questions or require additional information, contact Jason Barnwell at 703-324-4965, TTY 711.

## You rang?

If you were one of the employees who called to say you loved Online Pay Advice but wanted it automatically sent to your county Outlook account – the wait is almost over!

Soon you can have an e-mail sent when payroll is distributed without signing into Online TIME. Once selected, your pay advice for the current pay period will be automatically sent to your county Outlook account.

Watch for further details or call Evelyn Grieve, DHR, 703-324-3494, TTY 703-222-7314.

## Don't catch on fire

Smoking is prohibited in county buildings. This policy is stated in Memorandum #80-08 found on the Facilities Management Division's Infoweb page. If you have any questions, please contact the FMD Building Management Office at 703-324-2055, Option 2, TTY 711. ■

## Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award

The Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award has been established by Leadership Fairfax Inc. to honor the public service legacy of Katherine K. Hanley, chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors from 1995-2003.

The award recognizes outstanding accomplishments of employees or residents for sustained contributions to the quality of life in the community. The following jurisdictions are eligible: Fairfax

County, Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church, and Towns of Clifton, Herndon and Vienna.

Nominations for the Katherine K. Hanley Public Service Award must reach the Leadership Fairfax Inc. office by 4:30 p.m. on Feb. 28, 2005. Nomination forms are available on the LFI Web site at [www.leadershipfairfax.org](http://www.leadershipfairfax.org).

For more information, please contact LFI Inc., 703-752-7553, Fax 703-556-6733, TTY 711. ■

# Keyboard shortcuts

♦ Delete the whole word  
Place your cursor in front of the word, press Ctrl+Delete to delete the whole word instead of a single character or if you are positioned after the word, press Ctrl+Backspace to remove whole words in the reverse direction. Repeat for each word you wish to delete.

♦ Quick steps to lock your PC  
With Fairfax County's push for stronger PC security, we all can contribute by locking our PCs whenever we leave our work areas. Although PCs have been set to lock themselves if

there is no activity for ten minutes, it is better to lock your PC each time you leave your office or pod.

To lock your PC, press the Windows key+L (The Windows key is the key on the lowest row with the Windows logo.)

♦ Oops in Tech Tip #88

In the Dec. 24 *Courier*, the Tech Tip titled "Create a Shortcut to Restart Your PC (XP only)" had an error. The correct entry for step 3 is as follows: *In the "Create Shortcut" Window, for the location of the shortcut, enter "shutdown -r -t 01" (do not*

## Tech Tip #89

Department of Information Technology  
Technical Infrastructure Division  
Technical Support Center (#167)  
Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center Pkwy.  
Fairfax, VA 22035  
Tel: 703-222-3535, #1  
Fax: 703-222-3396  
TTY: 711

*include quotes*); press Next. What was missing was the "dash" preceding the "r" parameter. What a way to confirm that people are reading the Tech Tips. ■

## It's Flu Season! Help prevent the spread of germs

New posters displayed throughout county agencies remind people that it's flu season, to cover coughs and sneezes, and wash hands frequently. The posters are part of the Health Department's new campaign, "Your Health is in Your Hands: WASH." The Health Department encourages everyone to help prevent the spread of influenza (flu):

- ♦ cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue
- ♦ sneeze and cough into your upper sleeve, not your hands
- ♦ wash your hands frequently throughout the day
- ♦ wash hands by scrubbing together for 20 seconds with soap and warm water
- ♦ stay home if you develop symptoms such as fever, coughing, sneezing, runny nose, headache and body aches

For hand washing campaign materials, or for more information about influenza, visit [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd) or call 703-246-2411, TTY 703-591-6435. ■

## Fairfax County cops hit the ice



Ice Dawgs (Team photo)

On Nov. 20, the Fairfax County Police Ice Dawgs took the ice for the first time. Although outmatched by a veteran team from the U.S. Secret Service, the Ice Dawgs held their own for two periods. The third period was rough for the Ice Dawgs, with the final score 9-2 in favor of the USSS, who we think had something "secret" going for them. The Ice Dawgs consists of 23 players from the Fairfax County Police Department and one officer from the Washington,

DC Metropolitan Police. The Ice Dawgs practice at the Ashburn Ice House every Saturday night at 11 p.m. If anyone is interested in playing against or with the Ice Dawgs, contact Chris Cochran at [Christopher.cochran@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Christopher.cochran@fairfaxcounty.gov) or see the team website at [www.icedawghockey.com](http://www.icedawghockey.com). ■

<http://infoweb/courier>

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